

REMARKS

Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and allowance of all of the claims of the application. The status of the claims is as follows:

- Claims 1-27, 29, 32, 33, 35, 38-44 and 49 are currently pending.
- Claims 28, 30-31, 34, 36-37, and 45-48 are canceled herein.
- Claims 17 and 33 are amended herein.

Allowed Claims

The Office Action indicates that claims 1-16 and 49 are allowable. Applicant would like to thank the Examiner for allowing claims 1-16 and 49. These claims have not been amended herein, and therefore remain in condition for allowance.

Cited Documents

The following documents have been applied to reject one or more claims of the Application:

- **Burch:** Burch et al., U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2005/0171872.
- **Brovick:** Brovick et al., "WINDOWS® 2000 Active directory™".
- **Grambihler:** Brambihler et al., U.S. Patent No. 6,560,655.
- **Yianilos:** Yianilos et al., U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2002/0029214.

§103(a) Rejections

Claims 17, 18, 20-27, 29 32, 33, 35, and 38-44 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as allegedly being obvious over Burch, and further in view of Brovick, and further in view of Grambihler. Claim 19 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as allegedly being obvious over Burch, Brovick, and Grambihler, and further in view of Yianilos. Applicant respectfully traverses the rejection.

Without further comment or prejudice as to the merits of the Examiner's rejections, and without prejudice to the filing of subsequent continuation or divisional applications, Applicant hereby amends independent claims 17 and 33 which are currently rejection under §103(a) to expedite the issuance of the subject matter acknowledged as being allowable by the Office.

Applicant submits that these amendments thereby place independent claims 17 and 33 in condition for allowance. Dependent claims 18-27, 29, and 32 dependent from independent claim 17. Dependent claims 35 and 38-44 dependent from independent claim 33. Thus, applicant submits that claims 17-27, 39, 32-33, 35, and 38-44 are in condition for allowance.

Conclusion

Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and prompt issuance of the application. If any issues remain that would prevent allowance of this application, Applicant requests that the Examiner contact the undersigned representative before issuing a subsequent Action.

Respectfully Submitted,

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Representative for Applicant

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